

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 7, wherein the components include hardware components, the hardware components comprising:
computing devices or central processing units (CPUs); and
storage devices.
3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 7, wherein the components include software components, the software components comprising:
operating systems; and
application software.
4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 7, wherein the components include network components, the network components comprising:
network switches and ports in switches;
network routers or gateways; and
network security elements, wherein the security elements include firewalls.
5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 7, wherein the components include virtual components comprising:
software licenses;
network connections with specified bandwidth; and
IP addresses or subnets, wherein each of the subnets is a range of IP addresses.
6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A system to provide computing as a product to a user, where the computing is supported through a dynamic computing environment, the system comprising:

- an interface to present components of ~~[[a]]~~the dynamic computing environment to the user, wherein the interface to present components can present configurations as components to the user;
- an interface to accept user inputs for selection of components of ~~[[a]]~~the dynamic computing environment;
- an interface to accept user inputs specifying a configuration of the dynamic computing environment;
- a framework for creating the dynamic computing environment from allocable resources;
- an interface for the user to compute on the dynamic computing environment;
- a configuration manager that can save user configurations as components in a database;
- an interface to accept user inputs for scheduling computing sessions; and
- a scheduler to keep track of scheduled computing sessions and to reserve resources for computing sessions and to release the resources once a computing session is completed.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 7, wherein the interfaces are web-based user interfaces accessible through a web client device.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the components include hardware components, the hardware components comprising:
computing devices or central processing units (CPUs); and
storage devices.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the components include software components, the software components comprising:

operating systems; and
application software.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the components include network components, the network components comprising:

network switches and ports in switches;
network routers or gateways; and
network security elements, wherein the network security elements include
firewalls.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ method of claim 15, wherein the components include virtual components comprising:

software licenses;
network connections with specified bandwidth; and
IP addresses or subnets, wherein each of the subnets is a range of IP addresses.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

presenting components of a dynamic computing environment;
accepting user inputs for choices of components, wherein
the components include user configurations;
accepting user inputs for configuration of the dynamic computing environment
from the chosen components;
creating ~~[[a]]the~~ dynamic computing environment from the configuration in
response to user inputs for configuration;
presenting the dynamic computing environment to the user;
accepting user inputs for scheduling computing sessions;
scheduling requested computing sessions and reserving resources for computing
sessions; and

~~the step of~~ releasing the resources once a computing session is completed.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) A system to provide computing as a resource to a user, wherein the system comprises:

allocable resources; and

a framework for providing a dynamic computing environment using the allocable

resources, wherein

the dynamic computing environment is used for computing by the user;

a first user computes on a first dynamic computing environment;

a second user computes on a second dynamic computing environment;

the first and the second dynamic computing environment exist

concurrently and share the allocable resources;

the first user has secure access to the first dynamic computing

environment;

the second user has secure access to the second dynamic computing

environment;

the first user's computing has no impact on the second dynamic

computing environment; and

the second user's computing has no impact on the first dynamic

computing environment.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, wherein the system further comprises a resource monitor that monitors the allocable resources to guarantee the Quality of Service requirements of the user.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ system of claim 19, wherein the system further comprises a usage meter that measures the usage of the components of the dynamic computing environment.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the system further includes a billing subsystem to convert the usage measurements and the quality of service to a bill price for the user.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the billing subsystem is a pay-per-use billing system.

23. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the billing subsystem is a periodic billing system.

24. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the billing subsystem is an installment billing system.

25. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the billing subsystem is a combination of one or more billing systems.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for providing computing as a packaged product to a user, wherein the packaged product is a dynamic computing environment on which the user computes, and wherein the apparatus is configured to perform the following method:

accepting one or more user inputs for selecting components of the dynamic computing environment and configuration of the selected components;

configuring the dynamic computing environment;
presenting the dynamic computing environment as a product to the user;
billing the user for the product based on the price of the selected components;
accepting a schedule of one or more user computing sessions;
scheduling the computing sessions and reserving resources for the dynamic
computing environments for those computing sessions; and
releasing the resources on computing session completion.